

THE TRUE DEMOCRAT

JOHN G. COLLINS, Proprietor.

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Tallahassee, Friday, Dec. 29, 1905.

But for the Collins and Gorman shooting nothing would have occurred in Tallahassee to mar Christmas season, so far as we are informed.

Christmas holidays, short of help and a rush of job work prevented our giving the usual attention to the getting up of a newspaper this week.

In another column of this issue we publish Dr. Palmer's platform, and comments on same, that was "prepared by one who knows." Both are published by request and we parallel them for the benefit of our readers. Read both carefully.

A special conveys the information that General Joe Wheeler will probably be made Police Commissioner of New York, Mayor McClellan naming him for the position. He will make a good one, as he has never yet been found to fail to be good at whatever he undertook to do.

Hon. George I. Davis, who was elected by the City Council to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. Robert Phillips, who was appointed the sewerage officer, will not be a member of the City Council after the close of the present term, as he is not a candidate for re-election, or a hold over member, as is supposed by some citizens.

"Reform must always follow exposure, and the final result will be practical reform, which will protect our citizens at home and strengthen our credit abroad." The True Democrat has called public attention to needed reforms many times during the last months of this year. Let the new year show much better things for Floridians.

We give considerable of our space this week to an article headed "Benefits of the Buckman Bill," by Harvey H. Buckman, from the Jacksonville Sun, believing, now that the bill has been declared constitutional by our Supreme Court, many citizens, interested in school affairs, wish all the information they can gather pertaining to this important subject. Read it.

Hon. Lewis W. Zim, of St. Johns county, has gotten out the first issue of his St. Augustine Meteor, a very neat four-page, seven-column weekly, with the motto: "An Upbuilder A True Portrayer of Events, Local, State and National." It is well gotten up, neat and attractive, and its editor, being an experienced newspaper man and legislator, we predict for him and his newspaper great success, and welcome him back into harness. May he live long to do good with The Meteor.

Among our exchanges we note some improvements lately, one of which is that of the Sumter County Times. Its patrons received an excellent 20-page issue on the 22nd inst., of that all-round good newspaper. The Times' readers should deal out a first-class patronage to Editor Koonce, who is well known and highly appreciated by many Floridians as a useful and safe legislator from Sumter county. Hon. J. C. B. Koonce is also a member of the commission now publishing a complete revision of Florida Laws at St. Augustine—the commission now having the copy in the hands of the printer.

Mr. Chas. A. Choate, who has been associated with us editorially on The True Democrat from its first issue, has, with our advice and consent, although greatly to our inconvenience, accepted a very flattering proposition from The Record Company, of St. Augustine, for a temporary employment in the difficult and responsible task of reading the proof on the New Revised Statutes, which will require his absence from home for a month or two. We regret to lose, even for a time, the services of one who has done so much towards the upbuilding of The True Democrat, but we shall expect to receive from him occasional editorial contributions, helping to maintain the present high standard of our paper as a clean, vigilant and fearless champion of honest government and the rights of the people—a terror to law-breakers of every degree, and especially to all grafters, official or otherwise.

DR. PALMER'S PLATFORM REVIEWED.

PRESENTED IN "PARALLEL COLUMNS" FOR THE EDIFICATION OF TALLAHASSEE VOTERS.

Dr. Palmer's Platform, from Capital. To the White Voters of Tallahassee:

Having been announced as a candidate for the Mayoralty of Tallahassee, I desire to make the following statement:

If honored by the Democratic nomination, I will, when elected Mayor, not only stand for, but will incessantly work for—

- The lowest possible tax rate.
- Improved streets and sidewalks.
- A highly efficient police force.
- Better electric light service.
- A first class fire department.
- Thorough sanitation of the city.
- Publicity in municipal affairs.
- Business methods in administration.

For these, and for whatever in addition may be needed to give Tallahassee a thoroughly progressive and helpful administration of her municipal affairs.

Public spirit needs to be aroused in this community. We have as energetic people and as great resources and advantages as any city in the country. The trouble is we have not developed our attractions, hence they are not sufficiently known and enjoyed even by ourselves.

If elected Mayor, I pledge my best efforts—which shall be untiring and never discouraged—to the success of every reasonable movement which will make for a better and bigger, a wealthier and more beautiful Tallahassee.

CITY TAXES.

At the earliest possible date, the city tax rate should be lowered. Taxes in Tallahassee have become an unjust burden. The people are paying too much in taxes for what they are getting in return. This evil can be corrected, and I am for correcting it.

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS.

We need better streets and sidewalks in Tallahassee. Nobody can deny that. Rather than speak of the wretchedness of such as we have, I pledge effective work towards greatly improving these conditions.

ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT.

The city electric light system has not come up to the expectations of the people, who so generously and willingly provided for it. This electric plant should be operated on a self-sustaining, paying basis. By proper care and management in operation this public property can soon be converted into a revenue producer, and from its own profits the plant can be improved and extended without extra expense to the taxpayers.

More street lights are needed and should be provided without difficulty. Electric power should be furnished twenty-four hours daily, for the convenience of patrons and for sale to the increasing industries of Tallahassee. The electric light plant can be made a much more satisfactory and profitable public utility than it ever has been, and to this matter I promise my careful and earnest attention.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Our fire department must be maintained at the highest attainable standard of efficiency. The common interests of all demand this. As rapidly as improvements in the fire-fighting service can be afforded, they should be provided.

POLICE FORCE.

The police force should be officered by the most vigilant and intelligent men who can be secured. More of the city's territory should be patrolled, and more attention should be given to keeping all the streets cleared of vagrants.

PUBLICITY.

The Mayor and every other city officer are servants of the people, and the people have the highest and most unquestionable right to be kept fully informed of all the official acts of each and all of their servants. An occasional report of some isolated transaction is totally inadequate. The fullest publicity is the surest safeguard of honesty and satisfaction in the discharge of public duties, and for years there has been no feature of municipal government in Tallahassee quite so lacking or so needful as this. The time is at hand for a change.

I feel that it is unnecessary to explain my position relative to the thorough sanitation of the city. I shall warmly appreciate every vote cast for me in the municipal primary. My candidacy is respectfully submitted to the great mass of citizens who believe improvements can be made in our city's affairs—to those citizens who desire an energetic and progressive administration, working for a more attractive and more substantial Tallahassee.

HENRY E. PALMER.

Facts From the Record by One Who Knows, for True Democrat.

Every voter in Tallahassee knows, or should know, that in regard to not a single item of those eight enunciated "issues" does the mayor of Tallahassee have the slightest official connection by reason of his incumbency of that office. He cannot fix the tax rate; he cannot improve the streets and sidewalks; he has no control over the police force; the electric light plant is under the sole jurisdiction (subject to supervision by the council) of a Board of Managers; a council committee controls the fire department; a sanitary committee looks after the matter of sanitation; everybody in the city desires "publicity in municipal affairs," but the mayor has no especial power affecting it; all good citizens wish to see good business methods of administration, but the adoption thereof is a matter for the council and not within the official province of the mayor.

Any one may "arouse public spirit" without having to be elected as mayor. Has this candidate, as a citizen, ever succeeded in "arousing public spirit" on any topic—or even made an "effort" to do so? Why should he have waited all these years? Can he do more as mayor than he has done as a citizen?

Is not every citizen and tax payer interested, equally with this candidate, in the reduction of the tax rate if that be possible? Let him specify the method he would pursue, as mayor, towards this end. The council fixes the tax rate, according to the requirements of the city and the value of the taxable property, and the mayor has nothing to do with it, officially.

What a spectacle this candidate would make, starting out at daylight every morning with a shovel over his shoulder to "improve the streets!" That is about all any mayor can do, in that direction, save by his personal influence as a citizen.

The electric light plant is administered by an official board, subject only to the council, with ample powers, and under the strictest of requirements established by ordinance. The board is amenable to inspection and investigation, by the council, or by any citizen, at any time. Its books and records are open to the inspection of all. Complaints may be made by any one. The needs of the city and its citizens are as familiar to the members of the board as they could be to this candidate or to any mayor.

Of course. But what can a poor mayor—or candidate for mayor—do about it, all by his lonesome self?

Precisely. But will this candidate "pledge" the payment of salaries to the additional patrolmen he is so anxious to have employed? The council will have something to say about any other method of enlarging the force.

Well, now, when this candidate, in his "platform," begins to talk about "publicity in public affairs," they do get right close to the favorite theories of we people and The True Democrat, sure enough. That's our strong point. We believe in it. We practice as well as preach it. We urge it upon our whole people. But we must say that so far as this candidate and his sponsors are concerned, the doctrine sounds queer, if not incongruous, considering the fact that the sponsor is generally reputed to possess absolute control over two alleged newspapers published in this county, neither of which has ever had a word to say about the "publicity" which for several months has been given by The True Democrat to matters of great public interest to the people of the whole State, and which transactions were alleged and proven to have occurred.

One of the hopes that the future holds out is that of deep water and a good harbor at Carrabelle. If such should come about there is no doubt that Thomasville would immediately feel the benefit. The first result that would follow would be the building of a railroad direct to Tallahassee and through to the Gulf. It is said that the Atlantic and Birmingham has long had their eye on this plan.—Thomasville Enterprise.

Zephyr, Shetland Floss and Ice Wool at R. J. Evans'.

GOVERNOR GILCHRIST AGAIN.

Many of the newspapers, during the past fortnight have had something to say about General Gilchrist and all of them, except the Tallahassee Democrat have spoken highly of him. We fear that the Democrat does not see any good in anybody or anything.—Citrus Chronicle.

Yes, we do, too! And we have had nothing, as yet, to say of the General, seriously. We have taken occasion to publish his okra receipt, and his funny card announcing that he would not again be a candidate for the Legislature, but we fail to see anything about him, or in him, that would go to prove that he would make Florida a good Governor. Would a Speaker of the House of Representatives, who took the floor and spoke against receiving the report of a committee, appointed by himself, to investigate corruption such as was shown to exist in State Asylum affairs, make Florida a good Governor? Besides, it is believed that hidden, powerful outside influence was brought to bear upon him to bring about that grand spectacle. And that same influence mesmerized other high officials on other important occasions during the legislative session—particularly when investigation was attempted. But, glad we are to state, only nine members voted with the General on that proposition, and sorry to say that one of the said nine was from this city. Perhaps you do not know the General's little peculiarities as do some other Floridians who have many of his antics in their scrap book.

CULTIVATING THE VOICE.

To speak agreeably is to possess a power for pleasure and for good. Of two natures, that which actually contains the less gentleness or refinement may, by harmonious tones and properly trained delivery, appear in the finer light. We suffer for lack of education in management of our voice, as surely as if we were deficient in the ordinary branches taught in schools. In American education nothing is neglected so completely as the voice. It is hardly realized that the impression of a personality is conveyed by tones as surely as by appearance, by carriage, or by what one says. Of Anne Page we know that

"Her voice was ever soft,
Gentle and low—an excellent thing in woman."

Among our own acquaintances we count few women who could thus be praised, and few men also whose voices are a source of pleasure. If the voice is trained early, beautiful speaking becomes natural, and an instrument of charm is substituted for one of discord. It is not difficult. All that is required is a standard of tones and enunciation. These things could then be taught as easily as spelling or arithmetic.—Collier's Weekly.

Every citizen of Florida should secure a copy of Governor Broward's message to the last Legislature. It is free for the asking.—Bristol Bee.

It's the first edition that's needed. The "board-bound" edition. It is said a new edition, which covers up the prettiness (?) of the first, is to be, or has been, turned out—"100 copies of them at \$300.00." But as 100 copies will not go very far, request that first "board bound" edition. Maybe you can secure a copy, but we doubt it. They seem so precious now, they have been stored away for safe keeping.

Senators Taliaferro and Mallory are on the following important committees: Commerce, Mallory; Military Affairs, Taliaferro; Inter-Ocean Canals, Taliaferro; Post Office and Post Roads, Taliaferro; Pacific Island and Porto Rica, Mallory; District of Columbia, Mallory; Cuban Relations, Taliaferro; Pensions, Taliaferro; Census, Taliaferro; Coast Defenses, Taliaferro; Fisheries, Mallory; Pacific Railroads, Taliaferro; Patents, Mallory; Revision of the Laws of the United States, Mallory; Public Health and National Quarantine, Mallory.

The site has been selected and plans will be at once drawn up for a mansion for the Governors of Florida. The Governor of a great and growing State should have a home appropriate to the dignity of his office.—Times-Union.

La Grippe and Pneumonia.

Pneumonia often follows la grippe, but never follows the use of Foley's Honey and Tar. It cures la grippe, coughs, and prevents pneumonia and consumption. Ask for Foley's Honey and Tar and refuse any substitute offered. Mr. G. Vacher, of 157 Osgood street, Chicago, writes: "My wife had a severe case of la grippe three years ago, and it left her with a terrible cough. She tried a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar and it gave immediate relief. A 50-cent bottle cured her cough entirely." Refuse substitutes. Sold by all dealers.

A CORDIAL RECEPTION.

Methodist People Make Presiding Elder Welcome.

Wednesday was a pleasant day for the Methodists of this city, for, with their characteristic generosity, they kept open house at the district parsonage in honor of the arrival of the new presiding elder, Rev. J. W. Bigham, who, with his family, arrived here on that day from Tallahassee, and will for the next year be a resident of this city, though, of course, his work will carry him over the entire Orlando district.

Knowing that all good Methodists are good eaters, the ladies of the church here had prepared a sumptuous dinner for the elder and his family, and quite a number of them were on hand to take care of them. The affair was a pleasant surprise to the good man and his family, and they entered heartily into the spirit of the occasion. All the good things one could desire were there, especially prepared and ready to be eaten. Thus the presiding elder and family were welcomed to Bartow and the work of the year begun in a way that will prove that the people of Bartow will do great work in the Master's vineyard the coming year.

Next Sunday morning and evening Mr. Bigham will conduct services at the Methodist church. It is hoped he will be greeted by a large congregation. Good music will be rendered by the choir, and a regular old-time religious service will be held.—Bartow Courier-Informant.

In Praise of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

There is no other medicine manufactured that has received so much praise and so many expressions of gratitude as Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is effective, and prompt relief follows its use. Grateful parents everywhere do not hesitate to testify to its merits for the benefit of others. It is a certain cure for croup and will prevent the attack if given at the first appearance of the disease. It is especially adapted to children, as it is pleasant to take and contains nothing injurious. Mr. E. A. Humphreys, a well known resident and clerk in the store of Mr. E. Lock, of Alice, Cape Colony, South Africa, says: "I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to ward off croup and colds in my family. I found it to be very satisfactory and it gives me pleasure to recommend it." For sale by all druggists.

Comments on Buckman Law.

The Supreme Court of the State, which has had the Buckman school bill under consideration for a month past, has rendered a decision sustaining every feature of the law and settling, we hope for all time, a matter that has been a source of annoyance and great expense to the tax payers of Florida.—Manatee Journal.

The Buckman law has been declared by the Supreme Court to be constitutional. The case may be appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States. It is sure to be appealed to the Most Supreme Court of Florida—the ballot box, and there a verdict will be a verdict rendered which will forbid the robbery of the poor for the benefit of the rich. The political triumph of the supporters of the Buckman law will be short lived.—Jasper News.

There is some talk of appealing to the Supreme Court of the United States from the decision of the Florida Supreme Court affirming the constitutionality of the Buckman law. What's the use of worrying those august judges in Washington? If our constituted authorities in Florida haven't got sense enough to rightly decide purely Florida issues it is a strange and humiliating fact. We suspect that the Supreme Court of the United States is getting mighty tired of being worked overtime to settle so many disputes already fairly settled by the State Courts. It is a poor tribute to the Southern doctrine of State's rights.—Live Oak Democrat.

Items From Carrabelle.

Carrabelle, Fla., Dec. 27.—Christmas passed quietly, "nothing doing" in mayor's court. Marshal Mackery and Officers Cason and Sanborn, however, were on the alert; everybody kept quiet and enjoyed themselves. This morning both mills are running, and all seemed ready to go to work with a smile on their faces as long as a hoe handle.

Manson Robison's skating rink is entertaining the boys. Ask John Hance how much he enjoyed skating. Mr. A. F. Mahoney has resigned the clerkship at the depot and bought a half interest in the Mattair Drug Co. Hereafter the business will be conducted by Mattair & Mahoney.

Capt. A. B. Porter, of Apalachicola, spent Christmas here with his sister, Mrs. Annie Ludewig.

The Methodist Christmas tree was a success. A little unique Santa Claus brought Max Kilborn's "Dora," loaded with good and pretty "trix," for the little boys and girls.

Capt. W. E. Shackelford is building a launch to race Capt. Symington's launch, the fastest one here.

Ed. Roberts' Liberty county bear is attracting attention. "Bruno" can climb a tree quicker than any lad in town, and can eat three rabbits before Ed. can catch them in Maj. Lawrence's garden. J. W. S.

HOUSE NOW OPEN.

All modern conveniences. Transient and Table Boarders can be accommodated at usual rates.

MRS. R. C. LONG.

FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR
stops the cough and heals lungs

See Collins for Neat Job Printing.